



“The **American Academy of Pediatrics** recommends daily reading aloud from birth to grow vocabulary and promote healthy brain development.” (2014)

www.ReadAloud.org

- The single most important method for building the knowledge required for **later reading and learning success** is reading aloud to children (National Center for Educational Statistics).
- Reading to and with children is **fun!** Not only do children **experience magical adventures** through books, but they benefit from time spent **bonding with parents and caregivers**.
- Reading to children, from **birth through their childhoods and even teenage years**, models reading as an **enjoyable lifelong activity** and opportunity to **build knowledge of the world**.
- **Children who are read to in their primary language will have an easier time learning to read in another language.** Also, reading in their primary language helps them develop their cultural awareness and identity.
- Texts that **mirror children’s experiences and languages, provide windows** into the lives of others and **open doors** into our diverse world are a necessity for all children. (ILA, Children’s Rights to Read)
- Reading to children **stimulates brain development.** It helps them **learn to talk and to listen, grows their vocabulary** by exposing them to a huge number of words, helps **build their attention spans** and **encourages them to ask questions.**
- Children **learn to read by being read to.** They discover how books work, what letters are, and how words and pictures express ideas.
- Reading and being read to **can stimulate a variety of emotions**, and this helps children develop their ability to recognize and respond to feelings in themselves and others. (Raising Readers)
- Reading helps to **reduce stress levels and anxiety, improves concentration and focus**, encourages a sense of **calm and well-being**, and stimulates **creativity and imagination.**
- Even once children begin reading on their own, reading aloud enables them to **access books and stories more complex** than what they can read themselves and **facilitates the transfer** of learned concepts between and among academic disciplines.
- Literacy is related to **long-term workforce planning** and **economic competitiveness.** A study from the Business Roundtable found that nearly 98 percent of chief executives reported challenges finding workers with the **necessary skills.**
- Reading a **variety of types of text** – picture books, novels, technical manuals, sheet music – supports students’ future successes as professionals in the workforce.